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Office of the Executive Director

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POSITION STATEMENT: REPLACEMENT OF GASTROSTOMY TUBE

The Board of Nursing deems the replacement of a Gastrostomy Tube within the scope of Professional and Practical Nursing. The procedure is recognized as an advanced procedure requiring specialized knowledge, judgement, and skill derived from the principles of biological, physical, and behavioral sciences. It is intended that the replacement of a Gastrostomy Tube be done only under the following conditions and fulfillment of all prerequisites.

Conditions:

1. Replacement can only occur into a well established open pathway.
2. Replacement catheter can only be a balloon-type indwelling catheter.
3. Size of replacement catheter and balloon is specified in physician's orders.

Prerequisites:

1. Documentation of inservicing by a licensed qualified Physician or nurse who has demonstrated competence in the procedure in current practice. R.N. Enterostomal Therapists are recommended to provide inservicing.
2. Documentation of return demonstration X 3 in presence of qualified individual will be maintained in the facility.
3. Awareness of potential complications.
4. Demonstration of plan of action to correct complications.